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**From:** Huang, Judy [Huang.Judy@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 10/28/2020 7:54:45 PM  
**To:** Chesnutt, John [Chesnutt.John@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: LA Times follow up questions Montrose + PVS

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

ORC may be able to provide clarification on what happened.

There may be questions from the reporter to other people at EPA that I didn't get....

J

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**From:** Huang, Judy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 1:30 PM  
**To:** Rongone, Marie <Rongone.Marie@epa.gov>; Manheimer, Kelly <manheimer.kelly@epa.gov>; Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>; Ty, Fatima <Ty.Fatima@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>; Herrera, Angeles <Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov>; Zhang, Xiao <Zhang.Xiao@epa.gov>; Butler, Thomas <Butler.Thomas@epa.gov>; Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: LA Times follow up questions Montrose + PVS

Hi All:

Another option is to refer the reporter to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB), since they issued the ocean disposal permit.

As referenced in the US Santa Barbara article, "*Ocean dumping practices were prescribed by the California Department of Fish and Game, US Coast Guard, and Los Angeles Harbor Department...*"

Since this is technically associated with a permitted ocean disposal, we have not been involved.

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

Judy

PS. I've read the UCSB study when it was first published, but just for situational awareness.

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**From:** Rongone, Marie <Rongone.Marie@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 12:59 PM  
**To:** Manheimer, Kelly <manheimer.kelly@epa.gov>; Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>; Ty, Fatima <Ty.Fatima@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>; Huang, Judy <Huang.Judy@epa.gov>; Herrera, Angeles <Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov>; Zhang, Xiao <Zhang.Xiao@epa.gov>; Butler, Thomas <Butler.Thomas@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: LA Times follow up questions Montrose + PVS

# Ex. 5 AC/DP

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The reporter should be able to access public databases for this information.

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**From:** Manheimer, Kelly <[manheimer.kelly@epa.gov](mailto:manheimer.kelly@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 12:43 PM

**To:** Calvino, Maria Soledad <[Calvino.Maria@epa.gov](mailto:Calvino.Maria@epa.gov)>; Ty, Fatima <[Ty.Fatima@epa.gov](mailto:Ty.Fatima@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Rongone, Marie <[Rongone.Marie@epa.gov](mailto:Rongone.Marie@epa.gov)>; Alpern, Michael <[Alpern.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Alpern.Michael@epa.gov)>; Huang, Judy <[Huang.Judy@epa.gov](mailto:Huang.Judy@epa.gov)>; Herrera, Angeles <[Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov](mailto:Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov)>; Zhang, Xiao <[Zhang.Xiao@epa.gov](mailto:Zhang.Xiao@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: LA Times follow up questions Montrose + PVS

I think the first question on the ocean dumping would be relevant to Judy and Angeles, and up to them on whether they want to comment/address it or not.

Xiao: do we have any canned language on the status of Montrose as a company?

Regards,

*Kelly Manheimer*

Section Manager, CA Sites II

EPA Region 9 Superfund

415-972-3290



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**From:** Calvino, Maria Soledad <[Calvino.Maria@epa.gov](mailto:Calvino.Maria@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 12:36 PM

**To:** Ty, Fatima <[Ty.Fatima@epa.gov](mailto:Ty.Fatima@epa.gov)>; Manheimer, Kelly <[manheimer.kelly@epa.gov](mailto:manheimer.kelly@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Rongone, Marie <[Rongone.Marie@epa.gov](mailto:Rongone.Marie@epa.gov)>; Alpern, Michael <[Alpern.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Alpern.Michael@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: LA Times follow up questions Montrose + PVS

Hi Fatima and Kelly,

I just spoke with the LA Times reporter and she sent me the questions below. She tried contacting John initially because Mark Gold mentioned that John was involved with Montrose as an attorney back in the day. She's still interested in the ocean dumping aspect of the story, and doesn't really have questions on the Montrose groundwater site per se.

I'm not sure if anyone is familiar with the UC Santa Barbara study that she's citing, but please take a look. Since this is not really part of the superfund site, I'm not sure to what extent we could comment on this. She said we could wait until the article comes out and provide comment after that as well. Can we address her second question? Deadline is early next week, but I think there's flexibility if needed.

--Fatima, please loop in folks in SEMD who need to see/address this inquiry. I'm looping in Marie as well so ORC is aware and can review the responses once a draft is available.

Thank you!

**Soledad Calvino**  
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**From:** Xia, Rosanna <[Rosanna.Xia@latimes.com](mailto:Rosanna.Xia@latimes.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 12:13 PM  
**To:** Calvino, Maria Soledad <[Calvino.Maria@epa.gov](mailto:Calvino.Maria@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** LA Times follow up questions

Hi Soledad,

Nice to meet you by phone! Thank you for taking the time to check with the Montrose superfund team on these questions:

- **Here is the UC Santa Barbara study on the barrels and deep ocean dumping:**  
<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/acs.est.8b05859?rand=0vxkxul6>
  - o **Would the EPA like to comment on this study? Are these barrels a concern? What should be done with this new information that confirms something that could not be proven with first-hand evidence back in the 1980s/1990s?**
- **And does the team know what happened to Montrose as a company? Does it still exist, has it been absorbed into a bigger company, etc? How would you describe Montrose as an entity today? (I understand there is still some ongoing litigation with Montrose in the courts)**

In terms of deadline, could we possibly touch base by Monday or Tuesday next week?

Thank you,  
Rosanna

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Los Angeles Times  
Staff Writer | Metro  
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